PUDUKKOTTAI STATE

WAR INFORMATION BUREAU

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LECTURE LXX.

THE FIFTH MONTH.

By the time this resumé sees the light, it will be over five months since Hitler invaded Russia, nearly twice as long as the most pessimistic German forecasts allowed for the complete subjugation of the Union of Soviet Republics, and the garnering by the Third Reich of the riches of what were already being advertised as the Eastern Provinces of Greater Germany. Although it is dangerous to write ahead while mighty battles occur daily, when crises occur weekly, and a single break-through or counter-attack *may* prove the turning point of the war, it is perhaps permissible to essay a resumé of the general situation if only for the reason that we have reached a season which the Germans were supposed to be dreading most and the Allies hoping most from, without any sign of a decision. The Germans have made vast territorial gains and deprived their opponents of many important sources of supplies agricultural and industrial. The Russians have cost the Germans enormous losses in man-power, have halved their own industrial and agricultural losses by the simple but heroic process of destroying what they could not keep, so that the enemy should not get them, and instead of being a medley of hunted and depleted armies, remain in the field, coherent and courageous. And it is now winter in Russia, when, according to German forecasts, there should not be any more Russia, and according to Allied optimists, Hitler should have shot his last bolt.

Neither of these prophecies having proved even approximately correct, let us try and adjust our outlook, that mental missile which so many have mis-projected like a tennis-ball from a bat with slack strings and frame awry, in a bad light. And to do so, we should, so to speak, start the sett again.

The All-World War. When, on June 22nd 1941, Hitler invaded RUSSIA, he lifted the War on to a world plane. That is the fundamental factor in the situation; that, to revert for the last time to our simile, is the court we are playing on, and the result depends on our realisation of that fact. There were plenty of commentators in several countries who regarded that invasion as a desperate and irresponsible gamble, and who were prepared to sit back and watch two numerically enormous armies fight out the issue between them, with the rest of the world looking on, until it was time to pick up the pieces. The same kind of commentator has lately been boosting a diversion of British arms from the vital MIDDLE EAST, of British supplies to the Russians, and of British ships from the Atlantic, for an "Allied offensive in the west." Those of you who read this Bulletin regularly will know that we were not of that number. Such views were and are mere wishful thinking; fortunately neither LONDON nor WASHINGTON indulge in it. What they tell us is that now, after five months' hideous struggle on the Russian front, it is still against the background of Hitler's limitless ambition, against his ineradicable conception of German world-conquest, that the day-to-day situation in RUSSIA must be considered.

Megalomaniac's Vision. Against that background, we must imagine Hitler reasoning somewhat thus five months ago:—

(i) I underestimated the strength of BRITAIN in the autumn of 1940. This accursed race has to be eradicated, but I cannot risk attacking them again while there is "danger at my back."

(ii) I have a positively huge army, which MUST be employed to keep them in trim. RUSSIA is the only unprepared objective, and incidentally is the finest pitch in EUROPE for *blitzkrieg.*

(iii) I have large quantities of all kinds of supplies—now! But unless I snaffle another big source, I can't replenish them, whereas the resources of the enemy are being cumulatively replenished.

(iv) This blockade is the devil! Surely the best way to vitiate it is to consolidate a land-power so extensive and so rich that the blockade doesn't immediately matter.

(v) When in three months' time I am master of RUSSIA, the MIDDLE EAST, which those wretched Italians so failed so miserably over last year, will be at my mercy, and I cut the Empire in half at a stroke

(vi) If I sufficiently advertise my War against RUSSIA as an anti-Bolshevist Crusade, it'll consolidate these whining, troublesome, small powers behind my New Order, and hopelessly confuse both AMERICA and BRITAIN, who are already at loggerheads with the Soviet.

"There's Reason in his Madness."

For these brutally rational expectations, Hitler had some very good grounds.

(*a*) He had enormous mechanical superiority on land. His tanks—supported by his *Luftwaffe*—had crushed POLAND with 5000 tanks against 1000, and had crushed FRANCE with 10,000 tanks against 3000. (These are General De Gaulle's figures). After nearly a year of hectic forced-production in occupied territories, and in GERMANY, he had perhaps 25,000 tanks against a computed 15,000 of the Russians.

(*b*) The example of air-power by itself being victorious was fresh in his mind from GREECE and CRETE, and he only erred with the rest of the world when he thought that the Russians had both fewer and less up-to-date planes than the Germans.

(*c*) Suspicious and unhelpful as the Soviet Government may have shown themselves since the Russo-German Pact, they could not be *expecting* an immediate invasion. Therefore the valuable element of surprise was his for the taking.

(*d*) With RUSSIA in the toils, JAPAN would perk up. If she did not actually go to war, she would at least engage British and American attention in the FAR EAST, and certainly keep large Russian forces immobilised in SIBERIA.

Hitler was not, however, carried away by his optimism. The very weight of his successive offensives, and the directions of those offensives themselves, now prove that he foresaw grave risks and difficulties, and did his best to forestall them by adequate foresight and preparation.

The first and most important risk he must take was the terrific consumption of (a) mechanical resources and (b) oil. If things should not go according to schedule, he might well find himself with too many *panzers* bogged in RUSSIA for the winter, yet at the same time be unable to exploit the great Russian resources of oil.

The second risk was diminution of the strength requisite for a successful attack on BRITAIN. There must be no War of attrition in RUSSIA, but an early decision, otherwise he might be too exhausted to face the greatly increased British and American armaments.

The third risk was loss of prestige, emphasised by the depressing effects of so-called historical parallels. Charles XII of Sweden and Napoleon had both broken themselves against RUSSIA, and if a reasonable time-schedule could not be adhered to, the reputation of his *Reichswehr's* invincibility would speedily dwindle even in GERMANY, where if they cannot hear correct current news, at least a proportion of the population have read some history !

The Game is worth the Candle.

Balancing all these pros and cons, Hitler very deliberately crossed the Russian frontiers on June 22nd. Neither Charles of Sweden nor Napoleon had mastered the theory of *blitzkrieg* ; every modern nation which had experienced it had fallen before it. It was a fair assumption, therefore, that provided numbers and weight were massed in sufficient relays, with initial and subsequent mobility carefully thought out ; provided there were transport, and emergency plant and masses of impressed labour to repair or replace roads and railways and work the plant at call ; provided every possible plane was recalled from the west and ready to reconnoitre, bomb, dive-bomb and machine-gun—the great objective *could* be carried through. So with every one of these pre-requisites in being on that 22nd of June 1941, Hitler set out upon a concrete and seemingly fool-proof plan. Before winter he must destroy by slaughter or by capture the fighting forces of the Soviet, separately or together, wherever they might be found—on the frontiers, in their principal fortresses, 100, or 200, or 500 miles, or 1,000 miles from POLAND or GERMANY. At an average of 30 or 40 miles a day it could be done easily ; if opposition or weather slowed down average progress by half, it could still be done ; in three months the Russian campaign should be over, and the Russian Government at his mercy. Winter could be spent recuperating and consolidating, and by the spring, if

the Allies were not already howling for mercy, Hitler might select at his leisure his next target, be it the BRITISH ISLES or the British Empire *per* the NEAR EAST.

I think you will agree with me that there was no actual paranoia in this mighty conception. It was not, as so many comfortably thought, simply playing into our hands. In the opinion of the most highly-trained, methodical, and courageous General Staff, backed by an elated and confident people at home earning higher wages than ever before and with no kind of unemployment to worry them, (however reduced their actual standard of living), with banks and commercial concerns booming and battening however temporarily on the natural resources raped from prostrate agricultural countries, and with Savings Bank returns higher than ever in the country's history—*the game was worth the candle*.

The Event. Having so far seen the affair through German spectacles, let us now turn to the course of actual events. Seen from the Allies' point of view, the outlook is still pretty grim. It would be far worse except for the grateful fact that the modern Russians are a nation of realists, and the Soviet Government immediately grasped the principal weakness in the German scheme. This, as we have seen, was aimed at and based upon, the destruction of RUSSIA as a military power within a given time. The Russians therefore took as their own main objective, the maintenance of their various armies as fighting entities, while waiting for outside help (of which, providentially they were immediately and fully assured by BRITAIN and AMERICA), *by the expedient of trading territory for time*. At the same time they implemented this traditional policy, by the deliberate and courageous expedient denoted by Stalin's "scorched earth" policy, thus denying to the enemy the industrial rewards of successful but most costly offensives.

So it is now five months since the great adventure started—already two months longer than Hitler's schedule allowed. Nevertheless we can fairly clearly trace the steps of his programme *and can also comprehend that winter or no winter—that programme, is still in progress*. It has been delayed, but not halted, with the items varied in order but not altered, and we are now only guessing how long it will still be before the curtain can be rung down on the whole hideous performance.

The Germans' first lightning thrust at Moscow failed at the Battle of SMOLENSK. The vast pincer movement which was aimed to envelop, in the initial surprise stages, the whole Russian army, failed before LENINGRAD and before ODESSA. But the same objectives are still in peril. Another mighty assault on MOSCOW is in progress; to-day's (Nov. 7) papers tell of a renewed offensive on LENINGRAD; and for a month or more the enemy have been thrusting, successfully if very expensively in the south towards their Eldorado, the CAUCASUS; KHARKOV and STALINO are in their hands, and the same danger threatens the CRIMEA and SEVASTOPOL—though the German drive on ROSTOV appears to have been slowed down. It is true that fearful weather, certainly in the northern sectors, inflicts appalling hardships on Hitler's troops; mobility and communications are greatly handicapped; and the Russian scorched earth policy has baulked them of their hopes of fresh and full sources of supply. But behind time as they are, they are still there; they are still in enormous numerical and mechanical force; they are still advancing; they still maintain the initiative. Hitler's original 'curtain' for the performance, was the collapse of Soviet RUSSIA. The important corollaries were (i) Winter quarters in which to recuperate for next year's adventures, (ii) A prestige success, (iii) OIL. The 'curtain' has not come down, but the corollaries.........well, who can yet say? And what do the complacent critics say anyhow?

The other side of the Picture.

But now we have said the worst. There is another side to the picture, and one that should give us plenty of heart for the future, provided every single man in the Empire, in AMERICA and *very particularly in this country*, realises:—

(i) *Why* Hitler was not insane to invade RUSSIA;

(ii) *Why* his failure to keep to schedule, and the onset of winter has not yet cost him the verdict;

(iii) *How* we have the right to hope that Hitler is—slowly—losing the War, in spite of being still on the at least partially-successful offensive.

The answer to the first two questions, we hope to have helped you to see in the first part of this essay. The answer to the last question is that one nation at least has provided the only method, for all of us to emulate. I suggest that three words summarize that sole method—Cohesion, Effort, and Sacrifice. Those are what have

put Hitler's schedule out of joint in the latter half of 1941, and we shall be fools to hope that anything less from all of us next year, or the year after, or the year after that, will be sufficient to cope with and extinguish Nazism.

But that the Russian antidote for the Nazi poison is the right one there can be little doubt, for look what evolves from this critical five months we are talking about.

(i) The German advance is—territorially—tremendous. They can thank their treacherous surprise tactics and their superiority in mechanical equipment (especially tanks) for that. But the Russians unlike the French, faced it out, and the superiority was not great enough to be overwhelming. Moreover, unlike FRANCE, they have exhibited the most heroic spirit of coherent universal resistance, military and civilian alike.

(ii) While they have been setting us this great example, British and American production has been proceeding undisturbed at a great pace.

(iii) GERMANY has had to engage her *main* war strength (I have another note about this in a moment) on one front, and *cannot disengage herself.*

(iv) The War has thus *been swung from a blitzkrieg into a war of attrition.* German reserves of man-power and material are being steadily depleted—and very heavily depleted—at a time when her lines of communication have been rapidly lengthening.

(v) Occupied countries have been given hope, and are requiring large German forces on the soul-destroying and militarily useless job of maintaining order.

(vi) However satisfied the German Command and the German people may be going to feel (*if* Moscow falls, and *if* the Russian Fleet has to leave SEVASTOPOL, and *if* they capture ROSTOV—or even PETROGRAD), the thinking ones among them will remember, say, VERDUN in 1916, where in spite of a sequence of spectacular successes, final victory was denied them, because there was merely an endless vista of retreating but unsurrounded armies before them, and growing hostility behind them.

These, you see, are all important factors, and all very favourable factors, but they have been established **by the only means by which they can be maintained and finally crowned with victory—by cohesion, effort and sacrifice among the people still standing in Hitler's path,** among whom very surely INDIA, like IRAN, and IRAQ and EGYPT, must count themselves, if they do not wish to lie down and be trampled. Hitler is late, Hitler is wounded, but Hitler is hereabouts still. And in a short encounter, the wounded tiger is even more dangerous than the whole one!

SOME HARD FACTS. I think I will end on a somewhat more specific and concrete note, for it is not unlikely that some of you will be asking, "How is it that, in spite of all the terrific losses, the difficulties of communications, and the failure to beat General Winter, Hitler and the German armies *are* still so incredibly formidable? Why, for instance, does BRITAIN refrain from assisting her hard-pressed Allies by an expeditionary force? What about Hitler's dread of a War on two fronts? Couldn't this bogey *possibly* be laid, before it stalks terrifyingly into the MIDDLE EAST?"

I quote in reply from an official pamphlet which has just come into my hands. "The industrial resources", it says, "of an entire continent are at Hitler's command. He has twelve million men under arms and a mobilisable reserve of some four millions. Only a third of these have so far been engaged on the Eastern front; the rest are mainly concentrated in Northern EUROPE—in occupied FRANCE, BELGIUM; HOLLAND, DENMARK and Southern NORWAY. (Note the half-moon enclosing the BRITISH ISLES.—Ed.).

"If the need arose, Axis partners, ITALY, HUNGARY, RUMANIA and BULGARIA could, between them muster close on ten million fighting men. Four air fleets of the *Luftwaffe* are engaged in RUSSIA; the remaining three (about 5,000 planes) could be used for invasion purposes ..... With such tremendous forces under his orders he can afford to play Janus and face both ways.

"Hitler hopes that, while he loses two or three million men in RUSSIA—a mere bagatelle in the calculations of a man who is gambling to gain control of 1,500 millions of people—BRITAIN will, with a sigh of relief, sink back in a chair and fold her arms."

These words are used in a discussion of the likelihood of Hitler's really having—as Goebbels has been saying,—decided that any invasion of BRITAIN this winter is out of the question because GERMANY is so heavily engaged in RUSSIA. The very fact of Goebbels broadcasting makes it hopelessly suspect. But the statistics adduced do seem fairly apposite to the main deductions of this paper, even though the ten million non-German Axis troops might be written down to two million passable fighting men, and Hitler's actual losses of good troops in RUSSIA are probably nearer four than three million. Without the slightest feeling of pessimism—and if Mr. Stalin in to-day's speech does not feel pessimistic, why should anyone?—there is no harm in being realistic. Hitler is not yet defeated, he is only in course of being defeated; the Russians alone cannot defeat him; but the democracies can and will defeat him, *perhaps even in Russia* provided every jack man of us does his utmost—and not merely in spurts but persistently, whole-heartedly and self-sacrificingly until the end.

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

6—11—41 to 12—11—41.

General Winter has started his operations on the Russian front shrouding the battle-fields with rain and snow and German communiqués are becoming extraordinarily modest. We no longer hear of battles of annihilation, and triumphant entries into Moscow. Talks of the VIENNA Congress at which Nazi victims would assemble to register the New Order have receded into the background and are even denied. Hitler told his old comrades on Beer Cellar Day (Nov. 8) that though he has gone as far as Moscow he has no ambition to secure a 'prestige success.' Goebbels has woefully stated in *Das Reich* that the question for GERMANY at present is not *when* the war will end but *how*. In *Dien sans Deutschland* he reiterates, 'we can no longer evade the issue. We can no longer postpone anything for to-morrow. We must choose between life and death in chaos.'

In the **Leningrad** sector the enemy's claim for the week is the capture of TIKHVIN—120 miles east-south-east of LENINGRAD on the railway line to ARCHANGEL and the occupation in part of the coast

of lake Ladoga. Evidently this is an attempt to join hands with the Finns and encircle the city. But Soviet reports show that in this sector the Russians have passed from the defensive to the offensive. Hitler also admits the changed situation. Referring to LENINGRAD in his beer-cellar speech, he observes, 'we are now on the defensive and the other side must attempt to break through. I shall certainly not sacrifice one man more than necessary. It will fall into our hands. I have no interest in LENINGRAD as a town but only in the destruction of an industrial centre.'

Moscow.—Fierce fighting continues in the approaches without result. The enemy's attempt to occupy TULA is being seccessfully frustrated and the pressure exerted at MOJAISK resisted. A big German attempt to cross the river Nara where it effects a junction with the Oka has been foiled. All reported talks of a fresh German *blitz*—5th or 6th—should be received with caution. General Winter has joined the Allies.

The Crimea.—Here too the enemy is unable to claim any considerable success beyond the capture of BAKHISARAI and MARIENTAL. SEVASTOPOL and KERCH have been raided from the air. (SEVASTOPOL is well-fortified, but the defences of KERCH are recent improvisations.) If the Germans can establish air fields in the vicinity neither of them is safe for the Russian navy. Even NOVOROSSISK on the other side of the straits would be within range and the final resort for the fleet will have to be BATUM, which is not a first-class harbour. But here again General Winter is ready to hand. For several months the Black Sea, true to its name, will be black with winter gales and ice and German sea-borne support will be greatly impeded.

Fierce battles are said to be in progress in the Donetz basin. There is no mention of ROSTOV in the communiqués. Timoshenko is reorganising his forces to cover the Don.

Finland.—The Finnish Radio reported recently that hostilities have virtually ceased in the Russo-Finnish front and that HANGOE has been evacuated. But evidently Finnish endeavours to effect a junction with the Germans in order to encircle LENINGRAD and cut off the Anglo-American supplies *via* MURMANSK and ARCHANGEL continue. The attitude of FINLAND being far too important to be passed over, Mr. Cordul Hull started diplomatic talks on October 3 with M. Procope,

the Finnish Minister in WASHINGTON, in the course of which he was reported to have pointed out that while U. S. was glad to see FINLAND recover her lost territory and would also ask U. S. S. R. to conclude a negotiated peace with FINLAND making territorial concessions, U. S. was in no mood to tolerate Finnish aggression into Russian territory or her joining hands with the foe to the detriment of American supplies to RUSSIA. In furtherance of these talks, his Government forwarded a memorandum to the Finnish Government to the effect that she would forfeit American friendship if she did not withdraw from Russian territory.

The Finnish reply is a disappointing document. FINLAND refuses to stop her military adventure and states that she has no guarantee against Russian aggression in the future. She pleads that her war is purely defensive and that her entry into Russian territory is to secure strategic points for her safety. A Finnish advance in RUSSIA would not endanger AMERICA and U. S. should not, therefore, in reason ask the four million people of FINLAND to desist from self-defence.

Stalin's Speeches.—Stalin, the Silent, made two speeches during the week, both of them on the occasion of the 24th Anniversary of the October Revolution of 1917. The first was delivered on the 6th before the Moscow Soviet Union within sound of German guns and the second was made to the Red Army on the 7th when 500 German bombers vainly tried to break through into the capital. In the first of the two speeches, Stalin revealed now Hess's mission to BRITAIN to conclude a German alliance against RUSSIA recoiled on GERMANY resulting in an Anglo-American alliance with RUSSIA against GERMANY herself. Hitler had miscalculated by underrating Russian resistance and expecting internal disruption to follow his invasion. While it was true that the temporary Russian set-back was due to a shortage of tanks and planes, and the opening of a second European front would lighten RUSSIA's task, it was no less true—and only the 'Hitlerite infatuated fools' would fail to see it—that 'the New Order in EUROPE was a volcano ready to explode at any moment and bury the German imperialistic house of cards'. The German people who wish to have a war of extermination would soon get it with a vengeance. Hitler was no more like Napoleon than a cat was like a lion.

Enemy Shipping Losses.—During the past three months of increased enemy's attempts to convoy supplies to LIBYA, British naval ships and bombers have sunk 80 Axis vessels (339,000 tons) and damaged

61 ships (267,000 tons.) Enemy bases on the Libyan coast have been continually bombarded—BENGHAZI 21 times and TRIPOLI 13 times. Enemy shipping carrying supplies to German forces in Northern RUSSIA *via* the French coast and NORWAY have also been attacked resulting in the sinking of 322 ships in the last 6 months, including 71 for October alone in spite of adverse weather.

Destruction of enemy convoy in the Mediterranean.—A gallant naval exploit is reported during the week in mid-Mediterranean, when on Saturday the 8th Captain N. G. Agnew of H. M. S. *Aurora* accompanied by the *Penelope* and the destroyers *Lance* and *Livery* contacted two enemy convoys south of TARANTO, one of eight supply ships and the other of two, and gave the order to attack on Sunday morning in spite of the enemy's strength in heavy cruisers. The British ships were of 5,270 tons each and were armed with 6-inch guns while the Italian ships were of 10,000 tons each armed with 8-inch guns and with a higher turn of speed. All the ten enemy merchant vessels were sunk and two Italian destroyers were destroyed, without any loss or damage to His Majesty's ships. The Italian naval escort once again turned tail and left the merchantmen to their fate.

The Admiralty announces another successful action in the Mediterranean resulting in the sinking by British submarines of four more enemy troop or supply ships and two sailing vessels, and in the damaging of two armed merchant cruisers and two more supply ships.

Britain's air war on a second front.—For the benefit of those who demand that BRITAIN should open a second front on *land* the achievements of the R. A. F. on a second (western) *air* front may be enumerated. In the last six months the British Bomber Command,

(1) has dropped 20,000 tons of bombs on GERMANY,

(2) has sunk or damaged 332 enemy ships;

(3) has kept back from RUSSIA one half of the *Luftwaffe*—its cream in craft and personnel,

(4) destroyed 1,152 enemy aircraft and 2,882 enemy personnel,

(5) protected, in tens of thousands of flights over the sea, American supplies to RUSSIA over the Atlantic and the Arctic,

(6) given a respite to British factories to forge new weapons, and

(7) has generally demoralised the enemy who now shuns the R. A. F. whenever he sights it.

The R. A. F. exploits for October alone are considerable. During this month, the R. A. F. has sunk or damaged 71 enemy vessels in the North Sea and the Atlantic, and 30 in the Mediterranean, and in spite of bad weather on 5 days and 11 nights made 195 attacks against 81 Axis targets, including 5 on NAPLES, 21 on BENGHAZI, 13 on TRIPOLI, 12 on BARDIA, 17 on GERMANY and 59 on the occupied countries.

During the week one of the biggest raids of the war was made on BERLIN on November 7: other targets being ESSEN, and the Channell and Libyan bases.

Japan.—JAPAN is making eleventh hour attempts to win over AMERICA by sending Mr. Saburo Kurusho to WASHINGTON to assist Admiral Nomura in his talks, but true to her Janus policy is also massing troops along the INDO-CHINA border to threaten the BURMA road.

Whatever JAPAN's actual intentions may be, Mr Churchill has left her in no doubt of what BRITAIN will do in the event of trespass. After announcing that in addition to policing the Atlantic and the Mediterranean 'a powerful naval force of heavy ships' would be despatched to the Indian and Pacific oceans, 'if necessary', and after admitting that he had always been 'a sentimental well-wisher of JAPAN and an admirer of her many gifts and qualities' he sounded a plain warning :—

"The United States' interest in the Far East is well known. They are doing their utmost to find a way to preserve peace in the Pacific. We do not know whether their efforts will be successful.

"But if they fail I take this occasion to say—and it is my duty to say—that should the United States become involved in a war with Japan, the British declaration will follow with in the hour.

"Viewing the vast and sombre scene as dispassionately as possible, it would seem a very hazardous adventure for the Japanese people to plunge quite needlessly into the world struggle, in which they may well find themselves opposed in the Pacific by States whose population comprises nearly three-quarters of the human race."

Joint Defence Production.—U. S. and CANADA have set up a Joint Defence Production Committee to co-ordinate production of defence materials. AMERICA will finance and supply raw materials like nickel, and CANADA will do the manufacturing.

U. S. base in Iceland.—U. S. has established a regular naval base in ICELAND to repair ships and planes and has instituted fuel and ammunition depóts.

U-Boats off Newfoundland.—As the relations between AMERICA and GERMANY deteriorate enemy submarines are stealing nearer and nearer the American coast. Several of them have been recently sunk by Canadian aircraft based at ST. JOHN'S.

Mr. Wendell Wellkie has made several welcome revelations during a recent statement : 1. Anglo American Planes Production would be three times that of the Germans in a year ; 2. The American and British navies are rapidly taking possession of the Atlantic and the Mediterranean ; 3. A plan of concerted Anglo-American action in the Pacific has long been reached, and 4. American ships are arriving at Suez at the rate of 30 a month and American technicians are doing most of the tank and plane repairing along the 1,800 miles front of the MIDDLE EAST.

Panama has rejected JAPAN'S protest regarding the expulsion under the new Panama Nationalisation Law of Japanese from all PANAMA business. Small as she is, PANAMA will not permit foreign Governments however powerful to dictate the terms under which their nationals should trade.

India.—On November 10, at a ceremonial parade H. E. the Viceroy presented the Victoria Cross to Lieut., P. S. Baghat of the Royal Bombay Sappers and Miners and to the widow of the lat Subedar Richpal Ram of the 4/6 Rajputana Rifles. They are the first two Indians to receive this great honour in the present War.

BRITISH and RUSSIAN Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied COUNTRIES.

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	British and Russian air losses.	Enemy aircraft losses.
3—11—41. (Monday.)				
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
DAY :—				
	Offensive patrols over the ENGLISH CHANNEL and Northen FRANCE.			

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	British and Russian air losses.	Enemy aircraft losses.
3—11—41. **(Monday)**—*cont.*				
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE—*cont.*			
	A wireless station and a number of enemy lorries in the CHERBOURG area.	Riddled.		
	A motor vessel off CHERBOURG.	Set on fire.		
	Air combats over the CHANNEL.			3 bombers.
NIGHT :—				
	A fish oil factory at BERGSO.		No loss.	
	The docks at ST. NAZAIRE.			
	SICILY.			
	Targets at NOTO and ROSOLINI.			
	The submarine base at SYRACUSE			
	LICATA.			
	ITALIAN AFRICA.			
	The harbour and shipping at BENGHAZI.			
	The aerodrome at DERNA.			
	(By Russian planes.)			
	EASTERN FRONT.			
	Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole front.		2 planes.	
4—11—41. **(Tuesday).**				
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
DAY :—				
	An enemy convoy off the FRISIAN Islands.	1 large supply ship hit.		
	Harbours in occupied FRANCE.		No loss.	
NIGHT :—				
	Industrial districts in the RUHR and RHINELAND.			
	The docks at OSTEND and DUNKIRK.			
	Patrol over the DUTCH and the NORWEGIAN coasts.			
	Enemy shipping off TERSCHELLING.	A large supply ship hit.	1 plane.	
	ITALIAN AFRICA.			
	Assembly sheds and aerodrome buildings at BERKA aerodrome.	Big fires started.		

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	British and Russian air losses.	Enemy aircraft losses.
4—11—41. (Tuesday)—*cont.*				
	ITALIAN AFRICA—*cont.*			
	Air combat over BERKA.	2 planes.		
	Petrol dumps over BENGHAZI, BERKA and BENINA.	Set on fire.		
	The stores and workshops at NENA. **Motor transport** at BARDIA.	Fires and explosions started.		
	SICILY.			
	A train near NOTO.			
	Signal boxes between NOTO and PASSERO.			
	A factory west of POZAGGIO.			
	Motor transport on a road.			
	A camp near CAPE PASSERO.			
	A bridge near GELA.			
	(By Russian planes).			
	EASTERN FRONT.			
	Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole front.			
5—11—41. (Wednesday.)				
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
DAY :—				
	An ammunition dump, goods trains, army lorries, a barge lock, houses and gun positions in Northern FRANCE.		1 plane.	
NIGHT :—				
	A well-defended convoy off the FRISIAN Islands. **Channel ports** on the Eastern side. **Laying** mines in Enemy waters. **Enemy shipping** off the DUTCH coast	One ship set ablaze.	8 bombers.	
	ITALIAN AFRICA.			
	Enemy troops, petrol tankers and lories on the road between AZEDABYA and EL AGHEILA.	Machine-gunned		
	Dumps at BERKA aerodrome.			1 plane.

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	British and Russian air losses.	Enemy aircraft losses.
5—11—41.	**(Wednesday)**—*cont.*			
	GULF OF SIRTE.			
	Enemy shipping off the Gulf of SIRTE.			
	ITALIAN AFRICA.			
	The aerodrome, administrative buildings, workshops, hangars and barrack buildings at CASTEL BENITO.			
	Motor transport at BIR HACHEIM.			
	Supply dumps at DERNA.			
	SICILY.			
	Seaplane base and barracks at AUGUSTA.			
	A factory at LICATA.			
	(By Russian planes).			
	EASTERN FRONT.			
	GERMAN Communications behind the GERMAN army.			
	Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole battlefield.		56 planes.	17 planes.
6—11—41.	**(Thursday).**			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
	DAY :— **Offensive sweeps** over the ENGLISH CHANNEL and Northern FRANCE. **Barges and gun-positions** in the DUNKIRK area.		3 day fighters.	3 day fighters.
	NIGHT :— **Targets** at WILHELMSHAVEN, HAMBURG and other places in North-west GERMANY. **The docks** at LE HAVRE. **An aerodrome** in Northern FRANCE.		1 night bomber.	
	ITALY			
	A railway station, the harbour and an airframe works at NAPLES.			
	An aerodrome at CAPO DI CHINO.			

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	British and Russian air losses.	Enemy aircraft losses.
6—11—41.	**(Thursday)**—*cont.*			
	SICILY.			
	The submarine base at AUGUSTA.			
	ITALIAN AFRICA.			
	Objectives in CYRENAICA and TRIPOLITANIA.			
	Motor transport and workshops at DERNA.	Fires started among dispersed vehicles.		
	Tanks and another concentration of motor transport at BIR HAKEIM.			
	Enemy aerodromes at MARTUBA, EL ADEM and DERNA.	Many aircraft on the ground damaged.		
	A petrol depot area and mechanised vehicles at TRIPOLI.			
	A petrol dump at BENGHAZI.		2 planes.	
	Air combats over LIBYA.			1 plane.
	(By Russian planes.)			
	EASTERN FRONT.			
	Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole front.		12 planes.	104 planes.
7—11—41.	**(Friday.)**			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
	DAY :—			
	Offensive patrols over the ENGLISH CHANNEL and Northern FRANCE and the coasts of HOLLAND and BELGIUM.		No loss.	
	Factories, gun positions and a supply train in Northern FRANCE.			
	NIGHT :—			
	BERLIN, COLOGNE and MANNHEIM.	Very heavy damage caused.		
	The industrial districts of the RUHR and the RHINELAND.			
	Docks at BOULOGNE and OSTEND.			
	Laying mines in enemy waters.		35 planes.	
	ITALIAN AFRICA.			
	The harbours at BENGHAZI and BARDIA.			

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	British and Russian air losses.	Enemy aircraft losses.
7—11—41.	**(Friday.)**—*cont.*			
	ITALIAN AFRICA—*cont.*			
	An aerodrome at MARTUBA.			
	Motor transport and stores near SOLLUM.			
	Enemy positions in GONDAR region.			
	The harbour and other objectives at DERNA.			
	ITALY.			
	Aircraft factory, marshalling yards, railway trucks and barrack buildings at BRINDISI.			
	(By Russian planes.) **EASTERN FRONT.**			
	Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole battlefield.		1 plane.	29 planes.
8—11—41.	**(Saturday).**			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
	DAY :—			
	Offensive sweeps over Northern FRANCE and the ENGLISH CHANNEL.		15 planes.	3 fighters.
	A factory and buildings at St. POL and LENS.	Heavily damaged. Fires started.		
	The Norwegian fortress at AKERSHUS.			
	NIGHT :—			
	The industrial district of ESSEN and **other districts** in North-west GERMANY.	Heavy explosions and fires started.		
	Docks at OSTEND and DUNKIRK.			
	Aerodromes in occupied Countries.			
	ITALY.			
	The harbour and the marshalling yards at NAPLES.			

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	British and Russian air losses.	Enemy aircraft losses.
8—11—41. **(Saturday)**—*cont.*				
	SICILY.			
	The landing base and oil tanks at AUGUSTA.	Fires started.		
	The submarine base at AUGUSTA.			
	Factories and railways at PALERMO, CATANIA, SYRACUSE, MESSINA and other places in Southern SICILY.			
	Other factories at BISCARI and GELA.			
	A bitumen works and **the railway station** at RAGUSA.			
	ITALIAN AFRICA.			
	Enemy aircraft at JEDADYA!	...		
	Motor transport on the road to AGHEILA.	Many vehicles destroyed.		2 planes.
	Objectives at BENINA	...		
	MEDITERRANEAN.			
	An enemy convoy in the central MEDITERRANEAN.	A ship hit. A destroyer machine-gunned.		
	(By Russian planes.) **EASTERN FRONT.**			
	Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole Front.		2 planes.	10 planes.
	Communications behind the German army in RUSSIA.			
9—11—41. **(Sunday.)**				
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.			
	DAY :—			
	Offensive sweeps over the ENGLISH CHANNEL, Northern FRANCE and the Low Countries.			

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	British and Russian air losses.	Enemy aircraft losses.
9—11—41.	(Sunday)—*cont.*			
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE—*cont.*			
NIGHT :—				
	The docks and ship building yards at HAMBURG.	Damaged.		
	The ports of CUXHAVEN and EMDEN.			
	The docks at DUNKIRK and OSTEND.			
	Aerodromes in occupied countries ...		2 planes.	
	SICILY.			
	The submarine base at AUGUSTA ...			
	Railway station at MESSINA ...	Explosions started.		
	ITALY.			
	The dock area, marshalling yards and other objectives at NAPLES.	Big fires started. Heavily damaged.		
	ITALIAN AFRICA.			
	The harbour and shipping at BENGHAZI			
	Tents, stores, aircraft and motor transport at BARDIA.	Damaged.		
	Store dumps at BERKA ...			
	Motor transport on the road between DERNA add BARCE.			
	(By Russian planes).			
	EASTERN FRONT.			
	Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole battle Front.		5 planes.	12 planes.
	German communications and enemy positions behind the German lines.			

ENEMY Air Raids over BRITAIN, BRITISH Territories and RUSSIA.

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Enemy aircraft losses.	British and Russian air losses
4—11—41. (Tuesday).				
	BRITAIN.			
	No air activity throughout the night.			
	RUSSIA.			
	Moscow.			
	Sebastopol.			
5—11—41. (Wednesday).				
	BRITAIN.			
NIGHT :—				
	A single place in the South-west ENGLAND.	No casualties but only slight damage.		
	RUSSIA.			
	Moscow.			
	Sebastopol and **Kerch.**			
	MEDITERRANEAN.			
	Malta		1 plane.	
6—11—41. (Thursday.)				
	BRITAIN.			
NIGHT :—				
	Coastal areas in the East and South-east ENGLAND.			
	RUSSIA.			
	Moscow		34 planes.	
	Communications behind the RUSSIAN Army.			
7—11—41. (Friday).				
	BRITAIN.			
NIGHT :—				
	A few places in North-east and South-east ENGLAND.	Houses damaged and a few casualties.		

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombard-ment.	Enemy air-craft losses.	British and Russian air losses.
7—11—41. (**Friday**)—*cont.*				
	A single point in East SCOTLAND ...	Very slight damage.	1 plane.	
	EGYPT.			
	Suez canal Zone	...	No damage.	
	RUSSIA.			
	Moscow.			
8—11—41. (**Saturday**).	**BRITAIN.**			
NIGHT :—				
	A place in South-east coast and **another** in the North-east coast.	A few casualties.		
	MEDITERRANEAN.			
	Malta	...Slight damage.	3 planes.	
	RUSSIA.			
	Mosoow and **Sebastopol.**			
9—11—41. (**Sunday**).	**BRITAIN.**			
NIGHT :—				
	Coastal areas in South-east and North-ENGLAND.	Slight damage and a few casualties.	1 plane.	
	EGYPT.			
	Suez canal area.			
	RUSSIA.			
	Moscow		6 planes.	
	MEDITERRANEAN.			
	Malta		2 planes.	
10—11—41. (**Monday**).	**BRITAIN.**			
NIGHT :—				
	East coast of ENGLAND and near the SCOTTISH border.	Very slight damage.		
	RUSSIA.			
	Moscow.			
	Rnssian communications behind the battle Front.			

SIDE LIGHTS.

RUSSIAN WEATHER. We are now being shown how dangerous a little knowledge is. Back in July the facile assumption that " if only the Russians can hang on till the winter, Hitler is finished " was far too common. Sufficient allowance was not made for the time-lag between Russian winter in the north and centre, and Russian winter in the UKRAINE, which meteorological statistics show us may be a matter of two months or so ! And would to heaven that the climatic conditions of this mid-November round about MOSCOW were the same round about ROSTOV !

The difference in the military aspect in those two sectors is truly remarkable. In the MOSCOW sector the Russian defence has solidified to a notable degree. Round KALININ, where things looked particularly ugly in the middle of October, the German attacks make little, if any, progress—in fact they seem occasionally actually to lose ground. New massed attacks in the south-west against the line of the river Nara are costing them very dear, and except for the dangerous thrust from OREL towards TULA, the fighting is becoming more and more a matter of siege-warfare. In this the Russians have a definite advantage ; it is far easier to stand fast in a sea of mud, than it is to develop successful attacks.

In the south, alas, the weather is far more favourable to mobile warfare, and there seems little doubt that the Huns' rapid advance along the shores of the Sea of Azov towards STALINO and within ten miles of ROSTOV, means that the Russian armies have lost cohesion and, temporarily, the capacity to hit back very hard at the oncoming hordes of the Germans and their satellites.

That is why Timoshenko, with his great reputation as a strategist, has been transferred south, to undertake one of the most difficult of all military tasks, the forming and holding of a front with armies that have been thrown into confusion.

And that is why Marshal Voroshilov, who is known as an outstanding military organiser, and was summoned to the recent Three-Power Conference in MOSCOW to advise on supply, has also gone south—to build up a system of mobile defence in depth, with fresh reserves.

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SOME CREDIT ITEMS. Although there is no denying the fact that by the loss of STALINO and KHARKOV (the latter a great industrial and railway centre) the Russians have had to say

good-bye to most of the factories and mines of the Donetz basin (a serious loss in resources which BRITAIN and AMERICA have to, and intend to, make good with all speed), there is no sign of any kind of panic at Soviet headquarters. M. Stalin's speech on Nov. 8 gives sufficient indication of that......Incidentally he has described the process by which his government are salving a great deal of the Donetz resources, as the 'leapfrog process'. For a long time here, as elsewhere, skilled workers, plant and machine-tools have been hopped back from the fighting zones over the heads of similar assemblies behind them, these latter in their turn being evacuated east as the enemy menace grows nearer, so that the measure of the Russian losses is certainly not a measure of the German gains.

Secondly, there are reliable reports that the earliest manifestations of approaching winter are observable, even along the Black Sea coast. Continual rain and sleet have grounded large numbers of German dive-bombers, and—for the first time since this great offensive got under way—are seriously impeding the enemy's transport. 'General Winter' *might* save ROSTOV yet, especially if the Russian Black Sea fleet can look after the Kerch Strait properly.

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IF AND WHEN ROSTOV is in danger. The Germans probably claim that it is theirs already! Let us face the issue squarely, however, and say that if Tomoshenko and Voroshilov do not manage to halt the German advance in the south, and *if* the enemy capture KERCH, the eastern port of the CRIMEA, and *if*, despite the Russian fleet, they cross the straits and occupy NOVOROSSIK, (the then sole remaining Russian naval base,) then ROSTOV will be a good kicking-off place for Hitler. And then what? The Germans will then have two alternatives. The first will be to strike south and south-east along the railway line to BAKU, to some German strategists a positive MECCA. Or, again, they might drive due east against STALINGRAD, and the great port of ASTRAKHAN, on the Caspian Sea.

I am told, if everything previously goes as badly as it can, to expect the latter alternative. From ROSTOV to BAKU is 1,100 miles, and the last 400 miles of these lie in a narrow twenty-mile wide strip between the mountains and the sea. Inferior forces could put up a most hopeful resistance, and the whole terrain could be harassed from the sea. In any case, winter conditions would make this a most appalling trek.

The fruits of a successful campaign against ASTRAKHAN would really be much more succulent to the Germans. The oil-wells and other resources of the CAUCASUS would be wrested from the Soviet, *and* the supply lines, overland, and by way of the Caspian Sea, between the Russians and BRITAIN cum AMERICA via PERSIA, would be effectively severed.

Again, very fortunately, there are serious snags from the enemy point of view. They would, in such an attempt, first of all have to extend their supply lines by 700 miles across frozen steppes. A Caucasian winter is positively the last word in winters. And again, if Marshall Timoshenko does his job from round about the north and east of STALINGRAD, the Germans will have a very long and vulnerable left-flank to look after. Remember, the ROSTOV thrust was meant to *follow* the fall of MOSCOW. While the centre holds, the German push in the south becomes more risky the further it goes!

All I have to add to this amateur prognosis is "Please look at your map!"

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THE EMPIRE FRONT. In our leading article this week, we have begged our readers to be realists about this phase of the war. Our readers live in INDIA, that's why! Once again, be realists, but *don't* be pessimists, because, if we all do our job, that would be merely stupid and unjustifiable on the facts of the situation. The war has come 1,000 miles nearer INDIA in five months, and it may well come nearer still, and if it does, INDIA must be the *pivot* of the new Allied position, which reaches from TOBRUK in AFRICA to TABRIZ in IRAN, and from the PAMIRS north of us to VLADIVOSTOK on the Sea of JAPAN. Next year the whole 'movement' of the Allied clock may depend on the Indian mainspring. We shall have in the north the CAUCASUS and Marshal Timoshenko; in the West and centre Generals Auchinleck and Wavell; in the Mediterranean Admiral Cunningham; and in the East Sir Robert Brooke Popham, and SINGAPORE—*and all of them will need our unsparing effort.* We stand on the threshold of a supreme crisis of the war and of the world's history. Let us REALISE that the issue depends not only on the factory workers of GREAT BRITAIN and AMERICA and AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND, who are producing the big things, the guns and tanks and ships and aeroplanes, but on ourselves here in INDIA, who have a mighty list of equally essential if less spectacular supplies to meet; the smaller arms, the clothes, the tentage, the wire, the equipment, the railway lines, the armourplating, and a thousand other things. For the patriot, for the democrat, for the man with a soul, there should be only one mental aspect, *co-operation to the utmost*, with work, men, money and spiritual intention.

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JAPAN'S DILEMMA The rape of INDO-CHINA was the last success of the Axis strategy of probing for soft spots, and then exploiting them, without war. BRITAIN and AMERICA have made it clear to JAPAN that the final whistle has blown for that sort of game. Years of German successes misled the Japs into assuming that everyone could earn a premium by aggression; they were unable to foresee a world-combination disapproving of the process. Now RUSSIA in the north, and GREAT

BRITAIN in the south both threaten what JAPAN calls protestingly her vital interests, and are also both fully supported by the U. S. A., and JAPAN'S leaders are in a hopeless quandary. Her peacemakers are afraid to make peace for fear of her militarists, and her militarists are afraid to make war for fear of A. B. C. D. !

Japan's choice lies between :—

—joining the Axis in open warfare, in the successful event of which the best she can look forward to is a sort of 'Italian' position under a Power known to have some what predatory views on oriental countries, or

—making terms with the Democracies, which, whether JAPAN likes it or not, means the closing of the "CHINA Incident".

Characteristically, she is at the moment trying to eat her cake and have it, by sending various emissaries to come to terms with AMERICA, *without* renouncing aggression. But it has cost her Konoye's cabinet already, and General Tojo's government is in no easier situation, to judge by the fresh outburst against everything American in the official Japanese press.

Militarists are in power at the moment, and it is possible that their exasperation may override their discretion. It is just in case of something like this happening that General Wavell has just been having talks—very satisfactory talks,—with Sir Robert Brooke Popham in SINGAPORE. "A. B. C. D.", not without a certain satisfaction, watches an ally of Hitler's bouncing about from horn to horn of a dilemma of its own wilful making.

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OUR "V" DIARY. Judging by sales so far, the folk of PUDUKKOTTAI do not seem to think much of the Bureau's specially-devised and topical New Year's card for this year-end! This is curious, for from outside the State, demand is unexpectedly brisk. Large orders have been received, and the Press is already *re*-printing, not without a suspicion of anxiety as to whether *everyone* who wants one of these attractive books will be able to get one! It will be rather odd if—to make a small point—some thousands of non-Pudukkottians have an excellent photograph of. His Highness in their pockets, while his own subjects can't get one. Yet such will be the case unless Pudukkottians hurry up.

"BOMBER COMMAND"

[*Second Instalment of the Air Ministry's recent best-seller*].

THE INVASION OF BRITAIN THAT DID NOT COME OFF.

HOW R. A. F. ATTACKED ENEMY BARGE CONCENTRATIONS.

HITLER'S USE OF CONTINENTAL PORTS.

By the last week of June 1940 the Germans had in their possession ports, anchorages and harbours, stretching from Delfzijl in North Holland to Bordeaux in South-West France. Soon after the French collapse became obvious, there were places near these shores where the enemy might be harassed with advantage. Not only had he established himself along the western coast line of Europe, but reconnaissance and other sources of information soon revealed that he was there preparing to deal us a mortal blow, and that he was concentrating for the purpose men and material in the harbours of Norway, Holland, Belgium and France.

A considerable portion of the aircraft at the disposal of the Bomber Command were immediately employed against these harbours, which soon came to be known by the general name of invasion ports. The invasion ports faced England in a crescent. In its centre, the nearest of them, Calais, was only 21 miles away, but all were within a distance of 100 miles, and all were therefore at that time of the year, August and September, within a night's sail of the English coasts for the enemy's barges.

The ports in the centre were mainly built to handle passenger traffic. On the flanks are some of the world's greatest cargo ports.

This arrangement was admirable for the enemy's purpose. Ports built to cope with hurrying passengers can also quickly embark masses of troops, while the enormous facilities of Rotterdam, Antwerp, Le Havre and Amsterdam can ship the largest quantities of supplies in the shortest possible time. In fact, had the enemy built the ports himself for the express purpose of invading this country, he could hardly have improved on their actual lay-out.

These ports, because of their nearness to Great Britain, constituted the main threat, but in Norway, in the Baltic, in Hamburg, in Bremen, Emden and the many fine ports in the Bay of Biscay, the enemy had ample facilities to launch powerful attacks on our flanks. There were also along the whole coast line smaller and less important ports, which still had a considerable part to play.

In all these ports and harbours a formidable collection of barges and small craft gradually concentrated. They came by devious ways. Some hugged the coast, others chugged through a network of canals spread over Holland, Belgium and Northern France. German, Dutch, Belgian and French barges are of all sizes, up to 3,000 tons carrying capacity, although the largest are few in number and limited to special trades. The commonest type can carry between 300 and 400 tons, and if self-propelled have a speed of about eight knots.

The Germans decided to use barges for two main reasons. In the first place, they were ready to hand, for they were everywhere to be found in convenient numbers. There were some 8,000 in Belgium, and many thousands more in Northern Germany and Northern France. A conservative estimate made last September put the number of self-propelled barges suitable for the enemy's purpose at no fewer than 3,000. Those which could be towed by tugs were many times more numerous. In the second place, barges are peculiarly suitable for the transport of vehicles which have to be landed in a hurry, perhaps in the face of hostile fire. A barge runs direct on to the shore in shallow water, and a vehicle can reach land dry-shod by means of a ramp and a comparatively simple alteration of the barge's bows.

The three thousand barges, gradually collected in ports and harbours from Amsterdam to Cherbourg, had a potential carrying capacity of some 1,000,000 tons, while that of the ships amounted to about 4,000,000. They were the direct and immediate threat, but they were also a large and important target, dispersed it was true, but immobile in ports, harbours, basins and anchorages within comfortable range.

No time was lost in bombing them.

Ten attacks were delivered in July, 1940, on barges and shipping from Rotterdam to Bolougne, as well as on barges found in the Dutch, Belgian and French canals. In September the attacks were multiplied in all these and other ports, including Antwerp, Flushing, Ostend, Dunkirk, Calais and Le Havre. They were heaviest on the nights of September 8–9, September 9–10, September 11–12, and from September 19 to October 3, but they continued without much abatement on to Christmas, and well into this year. They have in fact never ceased, and will go on as long as any threat of a sea-borne invasion remains.

Up to May 31, 1941, 536 attacks were made. It is a formidable list and has not yet ended. Far from it.

Yet, when it comes to counting up the damage done, a certain prudence is necessary. Ports and harbours, though fairly easy to find and therefore to bomb, are hard to destroy. Vulnerable points are surrounded by much

water and heavy stone quays whereon bombs have a limited effect. Barges and small surface craft are very difficult to hit. Such adjectives as appreciable or considerable can convey only a general impression, and a more accurate word may not be appropriate as long as operations are still in progress.

One fact stands out above all the rest. Last autumn no invasion took place. Though very great preparations were made; though invasion exercises without number were carried out for weeks along the shores of West Europe from Archaeon to Denhelder; though small boys followed German soldiers about the streets and quaysides of Dutch ports making swimming motions with their hands and drowning noises with their throats; though the whole continent of Europe waited breathless for news that a twentieth century armada had put to sea—the German High Command made no sign and launched no attack.

While we held the sea and the air they did not dare to do so, and as days went by and nights lengthened, and bombing became more and more intense, there is little doubt that the morale of the troops destined to be passengers in the barges began to suffer. It became increasingly difficult for the enemy to use the ports for the purpose of assembling therein his invading army. Ships could not be moved into position under the constant rain of bombs, and in the black-out conditions which of necessity prevailed during raids.

To strike at the enemy in his ports before he sails against us has always been our policy. The crews of the Bomber Command are following the precedent set by Sir Francis Drake, even though they are singeing the moustache of a bloodthirsty guttersnipe, not the beard of a Spanish king.

AT A BOMBER OPERATIONAL TRAINING UNIT. "POST-GRADUATE COURSE" FOR AIR CREWS.

by

Major F. A. de V. Robertson, V. D.

(*In **Flight**.*)

The Operational Training Unit of the R. A. F. is an institution which has come into being since the outbreak of war, and the man who conceived the idea must be quite a brilliant man. Before the war the Advanced Training Squadrons at the Service Flying Training Schools turned out pilots theoretically ready to take their places in operational squadrons, and, in fact, they were very nearly fit to do so.

They still, however, had to learn all the little ways of the particular type of machine with which their squadron was equipped. That did not take long, but in time of war an operational squadron cannot afford any time at all for polishing up the training of new members. Still less can a bomber squadron afford to give time to the combined training of crews—and the team work of air crews is now one of the strong points of R. A. F. efficiency. So the Operational Training Units were started, and as a result a bomber squadron or reconnaissance squadron now gets a complete crew, thoroughly trained to work together as a unit.

A visit to a bomber O. T. U. is therefore extremely interesting, and recently such a visit was paid to one which trains for Blenheims. The crew of a Blenheim bomber consists of three men, pilot, observer (i. e. navigator and bomb-aimer), and wireless operator-air gunner. Each of these has to be brought up to scratch in his own job, each has to become familiar with working in his own special corner inside a Blenheim, and finally all three have to be trained to work together.

There is a great deal in this working together. Every man has his own little ways, and his two partners have to get used to those little ways; they must, for example, grow used to the sound of his voice on the inter-communication set, and to his pet ways of expressing himself. A man with, say, a broad accent from Glasgow or Toronto, might at first be almost unintelligible, to men from Yorkshire or Somerset.

INGENIOUS TRAINING GADGETS.

The training at an O. T. U. might be described as a post-graduate course, for all the men arrive at the station qualified to wear their appropriate badges, either the pilot's wings, the single wing of the observer, or the badge of the air-gunner. Each has proved his ability to do his own job, but each will benefit by a bit of extra polishing; besides, a man must not be allowed to grow rusty after he has been trained.

Side by side with all these considerations there is the need to save wear and tear on aircraft. So much of this specialised training has to be done on the ground, and many are the ingenious devices which have been invented to simulate conditions of flight. For pilots there is the Link Trainer.

The gadgets for training observers and air-gunners are perhaps not so well-known—in fact, some of them have been invented at this or some other O. T. U. and are gradually being standardised. The pilots may not have flown Blenheims at their training schools, and so they are taught to handle this machine at the O. T. U. This conversion course is a big and important step.

The Air Ministry Laboratory teacher is for the benefit of the bomb-aimer. He sits besides his pilot in a dummy cockpit in a darkened room, and on the

floor a film of a tract of country is projected. Actually it is about eight feet below the cockpit, but it shows the country as it would be seen from a height of 10,000 feet. The observer is told to bomb a certain target on it, and he directs the pilot, who moves the film accordingly until the observer is satisfied and makes the signal which indicates that he has bombed.

An important point on an operational flight is correct reporting by the gunner when he sees enemy aircraft. So each gunner is made to sit in the cockpit of a Blenheim in a darkened hangar, while illuminated silhouettes of German aircraft appear suddenly at some spot on the walls. The gunner reports by telephone as he would do to his pilot, but the message comes to the instructor sitting at a table in the hangar

The silhouettes show red for port and green for starboard, and the gunners are taught to call out the colours when reporting. One will say in a calm, low voice, "Two Me 110s on our starboard beam"; another will call excitedly, "A dickens of a lot of Jerries on my tail." These idiosyncracies are discouraged, and a standard form of verbal reporting is being introduced.

SPOTLIGHT TRAINER.

There is another device to give practice for air gunners in actual gunnery, called the Spotlight Trainer. If it were not for the expense of the apparatus, it would make a tremendously fascinating game for fairs, and would undoubtedly kill Darts completely. But the apparatus consists of a power-operated gun turret mounted in a darkened room, with the gun pointing towards a concave apse in the wall, and this would cost a pretty penny.

When the gunner presses the trigger a spotlight appears on the wall where his shot would have struck. An instructor stands below with a long torch, over the bulb of which is fitted a silhouette of an Me 109 or other enemy aircraft. He throws this figure on to the wall of the apse, and moves it about, while the gunner follows it and shoots at it with his spotlight.

Wireless operators spend useful hours inside a little box-like compartment known as the Harwell trainer. It is fitted up exactly like the wireless post inside a Blenheim, and the operator gets familiar with all the instruments he has to deal with, talking to the instructor outside. Navigators are also isolated, though less stuffily, as they steer an imaginary aircraft on a given course over a map, with an instructor outside in constant communication.

LEARNING ENDURANCE.

Most impressive of all is the Cubicle Trainer. There are a number of these little boxes, resembling in all essentials the interior of a Blenheim. In each of these a complete crew of three goes for a long imaginary flights, wearing full flying kit, and each doing his own job. The flight may last for

six hours, and endurance in the not very spacious quarters of the Blenheim is one of the things which a crew has to learn.

Before going in they are briefed, just as they would be before a real flight. There is a window in each cubicle, and on the wall opposite to it films are exposed from time to time. On this occasion the crews were doing a flight over the sea, and they saw a transport ship on the screen at one time, and spotted a submarine later on.

Sometimes the instructor outside showed them flashes from a lighthouse or beacon, and they had to recognise the flashes. In all respects the instructor acted as ground control, and gave them " fixes " when they needed them.

For all there is cockpit drill in such things as raising and lowering the wheels, getting the rubber dinghy ready for use, and dropping dummy bombs on to a mattress below the machine.

Of course, there is plenty of actual flying, too. Navigators and gunners do most of their air work in Ansons, which are roomy and convenient. The whole crew also does sufficient flying together in a Blenheim.

The instructors at an O. T. U. are mainly officers and airmen who have done a period in war flying, and have been sent to the unit for a rest. Some of them are very anxious to get back to the real thing, for it is not given to every man to enjoy the work of teaching. It must, however, be very fascinating to see the new air crews taking shape, and to feel that the high standard of R. A. F. bombing will be maintained. This visit was a very stimulating and encouraging experience.

TURKEY—NEUTRAL BASTION OF DEFENCE
RESISTANCE TO GERMAN PRESSURE
NATURAL DEFENCES AGAINST AGGRESSION
HOW ISMET INONU HANDLES DIPLOMATIC CHESS BOARD

by

Sir Ronald Storrs.

Turkey is once more in the forefront of news. Although she has not yet been subjected to actual physical aggression, none the less by suggestion and persuasion—and a clear indication of the results of resisting either—Turkey is enduring continuous heavy pressure to betray her British ally, and directly or indirectly assist the Axis. Nor, remembering the assurances offered to Belgium,

Holland, Yugoslavia and Greece, all of whom desired nothing better than to be left in peace, can she be greatly reassured by an official denial of any menace from Berlin, even when confirmed by Ankara.

Turkey is a neutral bastion of defence, still holding back the disaster of war from the Middle East. If Turkey allowed herself to be overrun by consent, fraud or force, then, clearly, the situation of her neighbours in the east (Iraq and Iran), and south (Syria), would swiftly deteriorate. Conversely, the recent liquidation of hostile forces, influences and intrigues from Syria, Iran and Iraq has not only strengthened the Allied position throughout the East, incidentally simplifying the defence of Cyprus, but has also incalculably fortified Turkey's European front, by insuring her against a stab in the back.

POTENTIAL THREAT TO TURKEY.

Turkey is susceptible to an immediate attack by land, sea and air. Besides the Germano-Bulgar army on her western Thracian frontier, there are also German divisions. But her lines of defence are the strongly entrenched camp at Adrianople, backed by a system of parallel positions, having on the left Balair covering the Dardanelles, and on the right the famous and powerful Chatalja lines, assisted by a series of deep lakes shielding Istanbul. Nobody familiar with the depth of their water or strength of their current, could fail to be amused at the idea recently suggested of their being crossed by swimming tanks.

If the Bulgars presumed to attack, they would probably soon see the Turks on their side of the frontier. Even if, floundering through the heavy winter mud, the Germans succeeded in forcing the Chatalja lines, they would still find themselves on the wrong side of the Straits. Assuming that these were crossed in the necessary shipping—assembled unbombed from the Black Sea—they would be confronted by the winter of the Anatolian plateau, whose sudden sharpness is an annual surprise even to its inhabitants. Further south railway bridges over the high Taurus passes would have been destroyed, whilst at the southern-most "journey's end" at Alexandretta, the invader would be warmly greeted by the guns of the British Navy.

A PLAN THAT WAS SCOTCHED IN THE EMBRYO.

Besides the difficult operation of forcing the Dardanelles, Turkey could also be attacked by light craft and by air from German-occupied ports in Rumania and Bulgaria. Quite recently an attempt to evade the Treaty of Montreux, by introducing Italian cruisers through the Dardanelles as vessels purchased by "non-belligerent" Bulgaria, was frustrated by its premature discovery and publication to the world.

Turkey is the only country between Switzerland and the Red Sea which has not undergone a major political crisis in the past 20 years. This is due to

the powerful constructive personality of her late first President, Ghazi Mustafa Pasha Kemal Ataturk. His colleague and successor, Ismet Inonu, has evolved from a trained and successful soldier, from a diplomatist who triumphed for his country at the Lausanne Peace Conference in 1923, to become the premier statesman of the Near East. He is of medium height with flashing black eyes, aquiline nose and small artistic hands; slightly deaf, but hearing all he wants to hear. Elegant in his dress, with a weakness for Russian caviare and strong black coffee.

KEEPING THE BLACK QUEEN AWAY.

I have found Eastern Rulers often good chess players, but Ismet Inonu is the strongest of them all. And he has hitherto proved himself capable through the intricate middle game, in which Turkey finds herself, of sacrificing an occasional pawn to keep the Black Queen on the other side of the board. A good example of this is the agreement signed with Germany agreeing to supply her with 90,000 tons of chrome, but not until 1943, instead of a much larger quantity forthwith, at the expense of the standing British agreement, as Germany hoped.

Since the fall of France, which temporarily weakened Turkey's position, she has not felt herself able to assist her British or Greek ally by entering war. But she has consistently refused to allow foreign troops to cross her territory, and she would resist any invader to the death. Nor does it seem likely that she will be caught by the bait offered in Germany's inspired press, of reconquering surrounding Arab countries, to re-establish the Turkish Moslem Caliphate, deliberately abolished by the wisdom of the great Mustafa Kemal.

THE PRAYER OF COL. KAREL CAPEK.

(Capek—the Czech patriot recently executed by the Nazis.)

O Lord, Creator of this beautiful land, thou seest our suffering and our despair; to Thee we need not describe what misfortune has befallen us, or how our heads are bowed. Not bowed in shame; we have no cause for shame, though fate strikes us with an iron hand. We have not been crushed; we have not shown too little courage. Our nation did not lose its honour; it lost only part of its body. We are like the man who, caught in the cogs of a wheel, feels from the very first and with most excruciating pain that he is alive. Our nation lives, and in this overpowering pain, feels how potently, how vitally it still lives.

O Lord, Creator of this nation, to Thee we need not recount our woes. But for ourselves alone, our mouths and hearts strive to formulate that which we must never lose, and that is faith. Faith in ourselves and in our history.

Faith that in history we have never stood and never will stand for wrong. Faith that on our side and in our striving there is more hope for future good, for growth, and for flowering into a richer fruitage than there is on the side of force and temporary power.

Greater than power is truth, because truth endures. But even in this trying hour we must take a solemn vow not to stand idle. Now more than ever before must we work for our nation, for its inner strength and unity. The better people we can make of our nation, the more will we do for that better side in history. In our fate a universal drama is being enacted, which will be carried through with great and glorious effort.

We have nothing to fear from the course of world events; on the contrary, every resort to brutal force is brief compared to the lasting need of man for liberty, peace, and equality among peoples and nations. We must work tirelessly among ourselves; we must love our nation even more than we have in the past; we must have a greater love for each other. We believe that in this, and chiefly in this, is our mission on earth; to make of ourselves a nation in every way capable of building a better future in the days to come, than the present dark period in the history of Europe indicates.

O Lord, we do not pray that we may be avenged. But we do pray that Thou wilt inspire each of us with the spirit of faith and hope; that Thou wilt let none of us yield to despair. Let each of us seek only how we may serve the future, the eternal destiny of our nation. We have no need of those who despair. We need faith. We need internal strength. We need an efficacious love which will increase our strength tenfold.

Never can a nation be called small whose faith is great enough to build a better future.

JITTERY JACKALS.

A little over a year ago Berlin announced, with a great flourish, the signature of the Three-Power Axis Pact. Having already coaxed Italy into the arena, Hitler now hitched a second powerful ally to his star of destiny........Japan.

To-day Italy, torn and bleeding, shares a circus cage with other States that Ringmaster Hitler has temporarily tamed into subjection to his will. Japan, willing to wound, is yet afraid to strike.

Italy

The position of the Fascist régime in Italy now approximates to that of the Vichy Government.

Japan

How hollow is Japan's pretension to be erecting a so-called "Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere" is

Italy—*cont.*

Gestapo agents hold key positions in all Italian Government departments, in banks and in many important commercial concerns, while Italian industry–cut off from seaborne supplies by the British blockade—is dependent on Germany for coal and other raw materials.

The German stranglehold is so complete that any revolt by the war-weary Italian people cannot be expected until German military power has become more seriously weakened. Moreover, Italian discontent lacks the leadership essential to successful organised rebellion.

Hitler would have no qualms about launching an attack upon Italy at the first sign of trouble. There is reason to believe that his recent demand for an additional million Italian soldiers was designed, not so much to reinforce the German armies in Russia, as to render Italy herself less capable of armed resistance.

If the Fascist leaders are ready to dance to any tune called by the Berchtesgaden piper, the people they "rule" can only moan under the tightening Nazi halter. Food is scarce and distress widespread—so much so that an Italian general recently asked an American, Mr. David Edge, to persuade the British to invade Italy. "That is the only way we shall get rid of the Germans, who are squeezing the life-blood out of the Italians," he said.

Meanwhile, Italy is becoming an increasingly serious liability to her Axis partner.

Japan—*cont.*

patent from the lamentable internal conditions in Japan—the wages of her aggressive policy.

Successive bad rice harvests have led to food shortage. Last year the deficit was to some extent offset by imports from Burma. This source is now cut off. The granaries of the British Commonwealth and U. S. A. are now closed to Japanese consumers.

The hitherto prosperous food canning industry cannot continue, as there are insufficient stocks of tinplate and rubber for packages.

Owing to shortage of labour in war industries and shortage of man-power due to deaths in China, the Japanese Government is being urged to cancel all reforms relative to hours of work and the employment of women.

Japan's great cotton and rayon industry is doomed, as raw materials can no longer come from British and American sources, and the great export field of the British Empire and United states has been taken away.

Recently-acquired Indo-China is being systematically bled. This new Japanese puppet has been forced to import 40 classes of goods from Japan free of import duty, only 10 classes being granted to Indo-China in return. Following the Nazi lead, Japan is grabbing goods, and finding excuses for sending nothing to pay for them.

Faced with British military might as the keystone of the A. B. C. D. front, and with Italy's example staring her in the face, Japan hesitates to take the fatal plunge towards which Berlin is pushing her.

THE AXIS SPEAKS—AND IS ANSWERED.

A Commentary on Enemy Broadcasts to India and the Near East.

For the period October 25—Nov. 1, 1941.

VOICE FROM "UNBOMBABLE" BERLIN.

"We must pull together if we want Berlin to remain the capital of Germany. Other large towns have rot had an easy time. Whatever happens we must endure the crisis .... in some districts it is even worse."

(Dr. Goebbels' appeal to Berliners, October 31).

RIDDLED BY RUSSIA.

"Britain has decided to send supplies to Russia through the port of Archangel which is frozen over in winter. She is not at all helping Russia, and this is but another example of Britain's deceit."
German news in Hindustani, October 27.

Both Britain and America intend to use Archangel in preference to Vladivostok for excellent reasons. The Atlantic sea route is the shortest. The rail journey from Archangel is only a fraction of the immense journey across Siberia, for instance. Archangel can, in all but the severest weather, be kept open by ice-breakers in the use of which the Russians are expert.

Other supply lines to Russia are also developing. Britain is reorganising Iran's road and rail transport, with the help of Australian rolling stock, and plans to despatch 3,000 tons of goods a day to Russia.

"Where is the Soviet's Baltic fleet and above all where has it been since June 22 ?"—*German Talk in English, October 29.*

Admiral Raeder knows the answer. The Baltic fleet up to Aug. 7 had sunk 13 German submarines, 10 destroyers, and 30 troop transports. And since then at least 4 submarines have been accounted for, and one enemy cruiser, and 4 torpedo boats have been destroyed. The Baltic fleet has helped in the defence of Leningrad, and Hanooe island, and has assisted in the evacuation of Talinnin.

ECONOMICS—STRAIGHT AND CROOKED.

"The Giornale d'Italia has stated that Germany's new economic agreement with Italy provides for the equality of Italy and Germany within

And how ? Rome broadcast on Sept. 28 that not more than 30 per cent of the promised coal has come from Germamy; Italy's attempt to ginger up

the economic order of Europe".—*German News in English, October 27.*

"British military officers in Egypt have been the source of constant distress for the Egyptians. Shortage of provisions and foodstuffs is being felt in Egypt on account of the seizure of stores by the British".—*German news in Hindustani, October 27.*

her disintegrating economy by sending out-of-date Caproni planes to Turkey in exchange for food meet with a rebuff. The New Tyranny gives the deflated Duce only one pleasure—frequent purges.

Goebbels' technique of repetition as the subtlest form of disseminating lies is wearing thin. In fact, in the past 6 months, the British Army in Egypt has purchased no more than 2 per cent of the local wheat supplies and ½ per cent of the maize supplies. An infallible evidence of Egypt's prosperity is that deposits in the National bank of Egypt from the public (excluding Govt. Departments) have risen by 100 per cent. Their approximate value now is £E 31,500,000,

TRUTH WILL OUT—DESPITE GOEBBELS.

"No serious attempt has been made on Tobruk yet. There is little doubt that it would have been evacuated at the very start had the force there consisted only of Englishmen instead of Australians".—*German news in English, October 25, 1941.*

"The British sailors declared that they preferred prison to the hell of German air attacks in the Atlantic."—*German news in English, October 16, 1941.*

Referring to this malicious attempt of Berlin to flatter the Dominion by lies, Mr. Forde, the Australian Army Minister, recently observed, in his statement regarding the general casualty figures: ***"The figures prove the fiction of lying attempts by Italy and Germany to insinuate that the Mother Country is not bearing its full share of the war."*** **The American *Life* and *Time* reporter praised *"British heroism in Tobruk,"* as far back as Aug. 17. And why did Berlin think it necessary to tell her own soldiers outside Tobruk that in the desert** ***"we are encountering an opponent who is versed in desert conditions, tough and capable of resistance. We cannot but respect him. He shoots well. This you have got to hand him."***

On the very same day the German radio observed ***"The battle of the Atlantic is an indescribable hell for the German airmen. As the German planes approach the convoys, a murderous fire breaks out***

from every ship. There is no question of surprising a convoy these days. As we gain in experience so do the British."

THE SOUTH AMERICAN WAY.

"Geographical experts in Berlin, however, have ruthlessly obliterated all existing boundary lines, and have divided S. America into five vassal states, bringing the whole country under their domination."

(*President Roosevelt's Navy Day Banquet Speech, October 27, 1941.*)

"Even the ridiculous invention of a so-called secret map of Nazi designs on S. America, intended as it is to scare S. America into the arms of American Imperialists, cannot do very much to help Britain................. **it is extremely doubtful whether this story will be believed.**"

(*German news in English, October 29, 1941.*)

Nazi propaganda has consistently betrayed itself in its efforts to get S. America within its tentacles. The Berlin radio is full of the usual duplicity, double-dealing, and dark threats. Everything runs true to the Goebbels schedule.

They Say This.

"That is America's policy to prolong the war so as to emerge from it the sole arbiter and owner of the American continent."—*German news in Spanish for S. America, January 9, 1941.*

"Responsible Americans in high positions do not disguise their wish for N. American domination of the S. American countries."—*German news in Spanish for S. America, January 10, 1941.*

"The Monroe Doctrine has become the doctrine of America for the Anglo Saxon."—*German news in Spanish for S. America, March 24, 1941.*

"In the great international film now being shown the U. S. A. plays the part of a gangster, and Latin America that of the shopkeeper victim."—*German news in Spanish for S. America, January 8, 1941.*

But Mean This.

"If the present attitude of the U. S. A. were to drag the other American States into the war........ **several S. American States might openly take the part of the Axis.**"—*Italian news in French for France, December 5, 1940.*

"With regard to U. S. A. attempts to include Central and S. America in Pan-American autarky, **it is impossible to detach these countries from Europe.**"—*German news in Spanish for S. America, November 25, 1940.*

"The Ibero-American countries are revolting against Yankee methods. **Germany is with them.**"—*German news in Spanish for S. America, March 25, 1941.*

"To Germany Latin American countries owe their progress."—*German news in Spanish for S. America, April 25, 1940.*

PROGRAMME OF LECTURES

OF THE

Pudukkottai State War Information Bureau.

1941— LECTURE LXX—(*Batch 2*).

November...	15, Saturday ...	Town Hall	...	6.30 p. m.
	16, Sunday ...	Vayalogam	...	6.00 p. m.
		Kudumiamalai	...	6.30 p. m.
	17, Monday ...	College (A) English	...	10.15 a. m.
		Nachandupatti	...	6.00 p. m.
		Virachilai	...	6.30 p. m.
	18, Tuesday ...	Malaikkudippatti	...	6.00 p. m.
		Tholayanur	...	6.30 p. m.
	19, Wednesday.	C. S. M. High School	...	10.00 a. m.
		Rani's High School	...	10.15 a. m.
		College (B) Tamil	...	10.15 a. m.
		Panayappatti	...	6.00 p. m.
		Rangiam	...	6.30 p. m.
	20. Thursday ...	Tirumayyam	...	6.00 p. m.
		Konapet	...	6.30 p. m.
	21, Friday ...	Kodumbalur	...	6.00 p. m.
		Viralimalai	...	6.30 p. m.

LECTURE LXXI—(*Batch 3*).

	22, Saturday ...	Town Hall	...	6.30 p. m.
	23, Sunday ...	Karambakkudi	...	6.00 p. m.
		Kottaikkadu	...	6.30 p. m.
	24, Monday ...	Konnayur	...	6.00 p. m.
		Mela Vegupatti	...	6.30 p. m.
	25, Tuesday ...	College (A) English	...	10.15 a. m.
		Tiruvappur	...	5.30 p. m.
		Kulipirai	...	6.00 p. m.
		Sundaram	...	6.30 p. m.
	26, Wednesday	C. S. M. High School	...	10.00 a. m.
		College (B) Tamil	...	10.15 a. m.
		Rani's High School	...	10.15 a. m.
		Ramachandrapuram	...	6.00 p. m.
		Rayavaram	...	6.30 p. m.
	27, Thursday ...	Annavasal	...	6.00 p. m.
		Kilakkurichi	...	6.30 p. m.
	28, Friday ...	Valramanikkam	...	6.00 p. m.
		Yembal	...	6.30 p. m.

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